

Mistrust, Manipulation and half-truths

Genesis 12:1-20

Dysfunctional Families

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June 7, 2015

There will always be a test. Notice:

- His faith was **genuine**. (v.4-6).
 - His faith was **confirmed** (v.7-9).
 - His faith was **tested** (v.10)
1. Distrust **erodes** family foundations (v.11-12).
 - a. Faith that can't be tested **can't be trusted**.
 - b. Faith grows **under testing** more than under clear skies.
 2. Distrust leads to **lying** (v.13-20).
 - a. Half-truths are **full lies** (v.13).
 - b. Lying has unintended **consequences** (v14-20).
 3. Distrust leads to **manipulation** (16:1-5).
 4. Distrust and lying can become **a habit**. Gen 20
 - a. We **fear** the wrong party when we choose to lie and manipulate (20:11).
 - b. We are a **curse** and not a blessing to the people around us when we choose to lie and manipulate.
 5. Distrust, lying and manipulation can become a **legacy** (Gen 26:1-11)

Let's learn something from Abraham and Sarah's history of deception.

- You can't build a **family** on lies and half-truths.
- You can't manipulate circumstances without **unintended consequences**.
- You can't practice distrust in God without leaving it as a **Legacy** to your family.
- We should never undo in **doubt** the steps we take by faith!

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.